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Medals and Medallions

William Miller

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



THE AMERICAN TRIUMVIRATE—MEDALLION PRESENTED TO MRS. GENERAL GRANT BY EX-SECRETARY BORIE.

THE AMERICAN TRIUMVIRATE.

A MEDALLION has been recently published by W. Miller & Co., Artists, of Philadelphia, giving in a single view the heads of Washington, Lincoln, and Grant. The idea of combining these three heads in a single piece of art reflects a popular conception. Washington, Lincoln, and Grant were made Presidents at the three great critical eras of our history. Washington—the Virginian gentleman—is the characteristic representative of our colonial period. Lincoln and Grant belong to that new era in which the gigantic West plays so important a part. History will record that General Grant was the guardian of our liberties even before he was called to the seat of Executive power. Truly Washington will ever stand upon record as the Father of his country, Lincoln as its Savior, and Grant as its Preserver.

and Grant as its Preserver.

This medallion is of bronze, the heads being of life-size. It was privately presented to Mrs. General Grant at Long Branch by ex-Secretary Borie. Messrs. Miller & Co. are executing a number of artistic pieces of this character, which are of great beauty and value.

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NEW PHOTO-TINT

Miller's Celebrated Medallion

"Triumviri Americani,"

Representing the Unity of the Government.

HARPER'S WEEKLY, of August 21st, 1869, gave an illustration of this Historical Work, with the following Art Editorial:

"The American Triumviri, presented to Mrs. Gen. Grant, by Ex-Sec. Borie.

"A medallion has recently been executed by William Miller, Artist, of Philadelphia, giving in a single view the heads of Washington, Lincoln and Grant. The idea of combining these three heads in a

single piece of Art, reflects a popular conception.
"Washington, Lincoln and Grant, were made Presidents at the three great critical periods of our History. Washington, the Virginia gentleman, is the representative of our Colonial times. Lincoln and Grant belong to that new era in which the gigantic West plays so important a part. History will record that Gen. Grant was the guardian of our liberties, even before he was called to the seat of Exeentive power.
"Truly, Washington will ever stand as the Father of his Country; Lincoln, as its Saviour; Grant,

as its Preserver.

"The Medallion is of Bronze, the heads being life size. It was privately presented to Mrs. Gen.

Grant at Long Branch, by Ex-See. Borie."

During 1870 and 1871, thirty-two of these Bronzes were sold, most of them being purchased for presentation to Public Buildings.

THE NEW PHOTO-TINT.

A desire has very frequently been expressed by those who have seen the Bronze, to obtain a large Photograph, or other good representation of it, suitable to adorn their homes, and to impress upon the minds of their children the important historical facts presented by it, thereby fitting them the more, as they grow into citizenship, to faithfully support the principles of Truth, Justiee, and good Government, represented by this trio of "Illustrious Americans."

To meet this demand, we now publish a Photo-Tint, printed in oil, which has all the delieacy and beauty of the finest Photograph taken from the model, combined with the permanency of the best steel

engraving.

It is printed on heavy Plate Paper, 20 by 22 inches; and it has been awarded the highest terms of

praise by our best connoissenrs and Art erities.

To place it within the reach of all, we have concluded to sell them at the low price of \$3.00 each. Copies sent registered by mail on receipt of price.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER of March 18th, 1870, contained the following Art Editorial:

"TRIUMVIRI AMERICANI."—WASHINGTON, LINCOLN AND GRANT.

"We have just had the pleasure of examining a copy of Miller's Celebrated Medallion, 'Triumvini Americani, of Washington, Lincoln and Grant, the original of which was recently presented to Mrs. Gen.

Grant, by our fellow-citizen, Hon. A. E. Borie.

"The copy we have seen, was yesterday presented to the City for Independence Hall, by Joseph Harrison, William J. Horstman, George W. Childs, E. W. Clarke & Co., W. W. Harding, J. W. Forney, Evan Randolph, Alexander Biddle, Henry D. Moore, and Clement Biddle. A few days ago, a duplicate of the same was presented to the Union League, by Messrs. James L. Claghorn, J. B. Lippincott, A. E. Borie, J. G. Fell, E. C. Knight, H. P. McKean, A. D. Jessup, Ferdinand J. Dreer, J. Fraley Smith, and George H. Boker.

"As a work of Art in Bronze, it is truly magnificent. We regard Mr. Miller's 'Triumviri Americani' as the finest expression in Art of our recent struggle for life—a purely historical American production, growing directly from the spirit and meaning of our times, and expressing the three great facts of

our Nation's History.

"Washington's face was modelled from the plaster mask taken from the face of Washington, by Houdon. Lincoln's was partly from personal sittings, but Mr. Miller had access to the body when it laid in state in the Capitol, at Washington, and it was finished at that time. Grant gave personal sittings

for Mr. M. at City Point, in February, 1865. This represents Grant of to-day.

"The heads are all superbly modelled, and as examples of truth in Bronze, we have no hesitation in saying that the likenesses are as nearly as possible perfect. The head of Washington is an admirable expression of his character. It is full of wisdom, purity and firmness, and is covered with that calm aristocracy which belonged to nature's noblemen of that day; all his thinking, breathing humanity, his courage and his manhood are there. His features are struck out in large, easy masses, refined and elevated, yet full of strength and dignity.

"The no less pure, but more rugged face of Lincoln, fresh from the wilderness of brain that new countries produce upon their borders, shows his whole character and history to us, plainly written in imperishable Bronze. He is the type of the self-educated man, the genius of the forest, bursting upon

an astonished world as leader.

"The next familiar face indicates an educated strength. It is a pure and firm expression, unflinching, yet courting no gaze. Deeds, not words, is a principle developed as decidedly in the face of Grant as in his life. 'And above all things truth.' The Artist has expressed it all; has grasped life, father of

death, and passed it to the imperishable.

"Characteristic as are these heads, they are yet high Art. Their characteristics are truthfully and simply rendered, but are in no way (as often in such work) exaggerated into the smallest suspicion of the grotesque. Dignity and quiet harmony covers all. Distinctive though these heads are, there is yet nothing which obtrudes itself or makes a separate noticeable effect when not separately viewed. There is nothing anywhere to offend the sight or taste of the most sensitive lover of Art."

In 1870, the Bronzes were purchased and presented to

The Reform Club House of London, England,

By J. Hinckley Clarke, Banker of Philadelphia.

Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.,

By Messrs. George B. Emerson, John Amory Lowell, John H. Clifford, George T. Bigelow, Nathaniel Thayer, Martin Brimmer, and George Putnam, D. D.

Athenæum, Providence, R. I.,
By Messrs, James Y. Smith & Nichols, R. H. Ives, Amasa Sprague, George H. Corliss, Amos D. Smith, Amos C. Barstow, and Seth Padelford.

Rhode Island Hospital,

By Ex-Governor James Y. Smith.

Redwood Library, Newport, R. I.,

By Messrs, Edward King, A. G. Lawrence, Levi P. Morton, J. P. Hazard, S. W. Macy, George H. Norman, Alfred Smith, George W. Gibbs, Alexander Van Rensseler, and John Foster.

Town Hall, Wakefield, Mass.,

By Jonathan P. Lund, Esq., New Bedford, Mass.

Mercantile Club, New Haven, Conn.,

By Frederick Ives, Esq.

Wadsworth Athenæum, Hartford, Conn.,

By Mrs. Samuel Colt and others.

They have since been purchased for several other Public Buildings.

Among the private purchasers were Hon. William M. Evarts, and Ex-Governor E. D. Morgan, New York; Ex-Governor Hartranft and George Dawson Coleman, Pennsylvania; and many others.

Price of Bronze Medallion, with Allegorical Figures, \$400.00 each. Plain Bronze Medallion, 250.00 Photo-Tint Framed, 5.00 and upward. Photo-Tint in Tube for Mailing, -3.00

A good, reliable Agent wanted in every city and town in the United States. For Terms, address

WM. MILLER & CO.,

ART PUBLISHERS,

427 WALNUT STREET. ROOM 1.

PHILADELPHIA

TRIUMVIRI AMERICANI.

A Remarkable Work of Art, Depicting the Great Heroes of America.

One of the linest achievements of modern photography and artistic design is the "Triumviri Americani." representing the unity of the Government, which Mr. Miller, of the New York Medallion Co., is now exhibiting in this city, and for which he will personally eanvass for a few days. A number of our citizens have already subscribed for this wonderful and elegant pieture, representing Washington, the Father of his country, Lincoln as its Saviour, and Grant as its Preserver. The medallion is of bronze, the heads being full size. The pietnres have been submitted to the best known erities of the land, and have been pronoanced faithful and faultless copies of the original illustrious The features stand forth as boldly as though chiseled in marble, while the softest and most skillful shading lend a lile-like and perfectly natural expression to the faces. The subject appeals to the patriotism of every citizen of the Republic, while the manner of its excention gives intriusic value to the work. Mr. William Miller is the author of the work which stamps him indellibly as an artist whose name deserves to, and will live in imperishable memory. The Philadelphia Enquirer in its comments upon the picture says:

"As a work of art in bronze, it is truly magnificent. We regard Mr. Miller's Triumviri Americani as the finest expression in art of our recent struggle for life—a purly historical American production, growing directly from the spiriting the three great facts of our Nation's

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Mr. Miller will call upon our citizens for a couple of days in the interest of his work and we heartily gones.





